

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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EXDIS

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TAGS: PFOR, CA, CB, VN

SUBJECT: CANADIAN RELATIONS WITH VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA
REF: BANGKOK 21426

1. CANADIAN MINISTER TURNER BROUGHT DEPARTMENT UP-TO-DATE
ON THE STATUS OF CANADIAN RELATIONS WITH VIETNAM & CAMBODIA
IN A JULY 29 CONVERSATION. IN EARLY JULY, THE VIETNAMESE
EMBASSY IN PEKING PRESENTED A NOTE TO THE CANADIANS, WHOSE
AMBASSADOR IS ALSO ACCREDITED TO HANOI, ASKING THAT THE
TWO COUNTRIES NOT "POSE THE QUESTION OF DIPLOMATIC RE-
COGNITION" FOLLOWING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SRV. THE
VIETNAMESE NOTE STATED THAT THE "INTERNATIONAL RIGHTS AND
DUTIES OF THE DRVN AND THE RSVN CONTINUE TO BE VALID FOR
THE SRV." THE VIETNAMESE ALSO SPECIFIED THAT THE DATE
ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS REMAINS 21 AUGUST 1973,
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THE DATE WHEN CANADA AND THE DRV HAD ESTABLISHED RELATIONS.

IN MID-JULY, CANADA AGREED TO THE PROPOSAL BY NOTE, INCLUDING THAT THE AUGUST, 1973 DATE REMAIN THE DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS. CANADA ALSO TOOK NOTE OF THE SRV'S ENGAGEMENT TO ACCEPT THE RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF THE PREVIOUS VIETNAMESE ENTITIES. THE CANADIAN AMBASSADOR TO PEKING REMAINS ACCREDITED TO THE SRV.

2. AT THE SAME TIME THE VIETNAMESE ASKED TO SEND HA VAN LAU, VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR TO CUBA, AND SEVERAL OTHERS ON A

SPECIAL MISSION TO ARRIVE IN CANADA JULY 10 "TO EXCHANGE VIEWS AND STUDY THE SITUATION IN CANADA." THE CANADIANS DEMURRED ARGUING THE PRESS OF OLYMPIC ACTIVITY BUT AGREED TO RECEIVE A VIETNAMESE DELEGATION IN LATE SEPTEMBER. TURNER SAID OTTAWA IS NOW SPECULATING ON SPECIFIC MATTERS THE VIETNAMESE MAY RAISE INCLUDING THE OPENING OF A VIETNAMESE EMBASSY IN OTTAWA. OTTAWA IS ALSO CONSIDERING WHAT SUBJECTS IT WISHES TO RAISE WITH THE VIETNAMESE, E.G. THEIR INTENTIONS TOWARD THE LOCAL VIETNAMESE COMMUNITY.

3. REGARDING CAMBODIA, ON JULY 23 THE CANADIANS WERE SURPRISED TO RECEIVE A VISIT FROM THE CAMBODIAN CHARGE IN PEKING. SHE BORE A "PRESS COMMUNIQUE" WHICH SOUGHT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS BETWEEN DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA AND CANADA EFFECTIVE AUGUST 4. THE COMMUNIQUE WOULD HAVE BASED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS ON THE GROUNDS OF EQUALITY, RESPECT FOR EACH OTHER'S SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, AND NON-INTERFERENCE IN EACH OTHER'S AFFAIRS. ON QUESTIONING, THE KHMER CHARGE SAID "NOW THAT INTERNAL MATTERS ARE RESOLVED" FOREIGN AFFAIRS NEED NO LONGER OCCUPY SECOND PLACE AND THAT CAMBODIA, WHILE IT HOPES FOR CLOSE RELATIONS WITH SOCIALIST STATES, ALSO WANTS RELATIONS WITH OTHER SYSTEMS. SHE ALSO INDICATED THAT THE CAMBODIANS WOULD ACCEPT ACCREDITATION OF A CANADIAN AMBASSADOR RESIDENT ELSEWHERE.

4. THE CANADIANS REPLIED THAT CONSIDERATION OF THE MATTER WOULD TAKE SOME TIME DUE TO THE OLYMPICS. TURNER TOLD US THAT ESTABLISHING RELATIONS WITH THE KHMER SHOULD COME
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IN DUE COURSE WITHOUT ANY RUSH AND THAT PEKING IS THEIR ONLY PRACTICAL POINT OF ACCREDITATION TO PHNOM PENH. CANADA HAS MADE NO DEFINITIVE REPLY TO THE KHMER DEMARCHE SO FAR. KISSINGER

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